THE THREE AMERICAS

AND

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

A Grand Celebration.

WHY IT SHOULD BE HELD HERE.

Arguments Before the Quadri-Centennial Committee.

Remarks of Prominent and Influential Men Who Favor a Site at the National Capital-Claims Which Should Not be Denied.

Introductory Remarks by John W. Douglass, President of the Board of District Commissioners.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I want to occupy only a moment of your atcommon parlance the case of the city of Washington, or, in other words, the Capital of the Nation, as a proper place to hold the great International Exposition of the Three Americas in 1892. We have divided the labor of advocating the cause of Washington. The first presentation will be made by Mr. Anderson, the Secretary of what has been called for several years the National Board of Promotion of the Three Americas Exposition. He will be followed by Mr. Parker, President of the Board of Trade of the city of Washington, upon the subject of the memorial that has been circulated among the citizens of Washington. While the first argument will correspond with the universal sentiment of our citizens, and, we think, the citizens of this country, that this being a great international fair, it should be sustained and carried on by the General Government at the Capital of the Nation, at the same time we have not forgotten that some of our sister cities disagree with us as to the location. In this regard something may possibly depend upon the question of money and subscriptions. Therefore the second bill introduced into Congress and known as the Gorman bill embodies that idea. The memorial, as presented by Mr. Parker, will be confined to the idea that we are ready to-day to comply with the money considerations. The third speech will be made by Major Powell, Director of the Geological Survey, who will represent, as far as may be proper, the scientific people of the country, and to a certain extent will show the perm-

affair. Remarks by Alex. D. Anderson, Secretary of the National Board of Promotion.

anent scientific results that will be obtained by

this Exposition. The concluding remarks will

be made by General Felix Agnus, of Baltimore,

our sister and neighboring city. I want to say

that the citizens of the District of Columbia

stand ready and willing to the best of their

ability to make the Exposition, as we hope and

believe it will be, wherever held, a magnificent

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:

We come before your honorable committee as representatives of a committee of citizens from all of the forty-six States and Territories who have, for four years past, under the name of a Board of Promotion, advocated a Three Americas Exposition at the National Capital, in 1892. in honor of the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Colum-

During this period fifty-six Governors, representing in all forty-one States and Territories, the Mayors of sixty leading cities, one hundred and seventy-six Presidents and Secretaries of Boards of Trade throughout the United States, and the Masters and Secretaries (one or both), of thirty State and Territorial Granges, have formally, and in writing, accepted membership in the Board, and pledged their co-operation in support of this patriotic movement,

In addition to this we bring resolutions indorsing the movement from the National Board of Trade, American Bankers' Association. National Grange in two annual conventions, International Medical Congress, American Medical Association, Carriage Builders' National Association, American Association of Agricultural Colleges, United States Potters' Association, Washington National Monument Society, the Mt. Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union, and various other bodies. (See Belmont Report, pp. 19 to 28.)

We also bring a unanimous report in favor of a Permanent Exposition of the Three Americas, submitted to the House of Representatives on the sixteenth of June, 1888, by the Committee on Foreign Affairs, through its chairman, Hon. Perry Belmont, of New York. This report is No. 2,601. Fiftieth Congress, first session, and we submit it as a portion of our argument in so far as it applies to the more comprehensive and new bill which we are now advocating.

THE BILLS ADVOCATED. With these preliminary remarks I will submit a brief statement of facts in support of the new bill agreed upon by the National Board of Promotion, and introduced by Senator Faulkner, of West Virginia. As it is short and concise, and clearly states our plan, I will read it as a portion of my remarks:

"A BILL to provide for a Three Americas and World's Exposition at the National Capital in 1892. "Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a Three Americas and World's Exposition be held at the National Capital in 1892, in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus, and that the President United States appoint a Governmental Board of Nine Directors to formulate and superintend the execution of a plan for such expo-

"Sec. 2. That said plan shall include-"A Three Americas Museum, to remain as a nemorial building in commemoration of that historical event, and as a repository of the antiquities and history of the Western Hemi-

"A Three Americas Building for an exhibit of the representative resources, arts, and industries of the eighteen American sister repub-

lies, the Dominion of Canada, and the West India Islands, 'A State and Territorial Building for an exhibit of the representative resources, arts, and

industries and the forty-six States and Territories of the United States. "A Building for an exhibit of working models of great American inventions.

"A Building for a temporary exhibit of the representative resources, arts, and industries of all nations other than American. "A Statue of Christopher Columbus, to be unveiled with appropriate ceremonies on the

"SEC. 3. That the President of the United States, through the Department of State, shall make proclamation setting forth the dates at which the Exposition shall open and close, and inviting participation of all nations of the

world, and all States and Territories of the United States. "Sec. 4. That the President of the United States specially invite the Presidents of the eighteen American sister Republics, the King of Italy, the Queen of Spain, and the Presi-

dent and reigning sovereigns of all other na-tions, to visit the United States in 1892, and join with him in the ceremonies attending the anveiling of said statue of Christopher Co-"Sec. 5. That the sum of fifteen million dol-

lars out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for carrying out the objects of this act."

Whatever money may be appropriated for whatever money may be appropriated for whatever money may be appropriated for the National Capital will be a safe investment, for the buildings will be needed for all time for Governmental purposes, and are not to be torn down and the material sold at a great sacrifice, as has usually

agreed upon by the local or Washington branch of the National Board, and introduced by Sena-tor Gorman, of Maryland. It is identically the same as the former, except that section five provides as follows:

That the issuance of \$15,000,000 of bonds of the District of Columbia is hereby authorized. or so much thereof as may be found necessary

holding said Exposition at the National Capi-tal; any unexpended balance thereof, together with the receipts over and above the expenses of said Exposition, to be placed to the credit of the District of Columbia for the liquidation of

any indebtedness of said District."

It will be submitted as an alternative proposition by Mr. M. M. Parker, who represents in this respect the local Board and tax-payers of the District of Columbia. I will confine my remarks to the Faulkner bill.

FUNDAMENTAL FEATURES. Our plan is based upon the idea that the commemoration of this great event in American history is beyond the magnitude and dignity of any individual city. or private corporation, and should be under the exclusive auspices and control of the General Government. That if there is to be any departure from this plan it should not be in the direction of local out rather toward international management, under the joint auspices of the governments of the nineteen American sister Republics, assisted by Italy and Spain, which have an equal interest in the history of Columbus and his grand

achievements. That the two leading features of the Exposition should be, first, the historical, to commemorate the discovery of America and its progress during four hundred years, and, second, the mmercial, to inaugurate an American hemispherical policy based upon more intimate commercial and social relations between the several sister nations of the New World which Columbus discovered, which nations have in the past been too little acquainted with each other. To emphasize this idea we have in the title of our bill placed the Three Americas first, and we know from four years' correspondence with boards of trade, governors, mayors, granges, and others that this is the most valuable and popular feature of the movement. Of course the rest of the world is to be invited to participate in the temporary exhibit during the six

months of 1892. That the Exposition of the Three Americas should be permanent and remain for all time in the nature of a memorial museum in honor of the great event. We do not, of course, by tention to say that I represent what is called in | using the word "permanent," mean a permanent exhibit of perishable products, attended by an admission fee, after the temporary Exposition of 1892 is closed, but rather a grand Continental Museum and other similar structures under Governmental control, and free of charge, to illustrate the antiquities, history. progress, civilization, arts, and industries of America, both before and since its discovery

by Columbus. That the American people, as a whole, are both ready and anxious to suitably commemorate the coming event, and are too powerful. rich, and proud to delegate a National and patriotic subject of this magnitude, and the attending expense, to any State, city, or private corporation. It is the people's celebration, and they wish to pay for it themselves out of their own treasury.

That the only proper site for the Exposition is the National Capital of the oldest and foremost American nation.

ADVANTAGES OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

The remarkable advantages of the National Capital as a site are fully commensurate with the proprieties of the case, and your attention

all the States—a city in which the 60,000,000 with equal propriety they should come here people of the United States have an equal interest and pride. It is as much the city of New York, Chicago,

and St. Louis as of the District of Columbia,

those three, and all other cities have a vote in

regard to the government of the District, while

we in Washington are deprived of the privilege

of suffrage. It is, therefore, the most repre-

sentative American city, and is governed by the people of the whole country through their

It was, just one hundred years ago, selected

by the American people as the seat of Govern-

ment, and has ever since been the Nation's

It bears the honored name of Washington,

and is within the District named from the

great discoverer, Columbus, in whose honor

Haif of its real estate and improvements, to

the value of \$150,000,000, is owned by the Government; the other \$150,000,000 being

It is absolutely neutral ground commercially.

which is a matter of unusual importance in con-

sidering the claims of other cities. As it is

neither a manufacturing nor commercial city,

it has no foreign commerce, hence New York.

Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, St. Louis, Cin-

cinnati, New Orleans, San Francisco, Nash-ville. Richmond, Savannah, Kansas City, Pitts-

burgh, Baltimore, and other industrial cities

will derive the trade benefits of the Three Americas Exposition. With the Exposition located at

Washington, the various cities mentioned will

have an equal chance in competition for Span-

ish-American trade, which is one of the funda-

mental ideas of the movement, whereas, if lo-

have an undue and unfair advantage.

of American politics.

cated in a manufacturing city, that place would

It is also, politically, neutral ground, and as

the Exposition of 1892 will be held during the

next Presidential campaign, it will naturally be

freer from political influence if located in Wash-

ington, which is a disfranchised city, than if

located in a State which is the battle-ground

It has an Exposition nucleus or plant to com-

mence with, which has already cost over \$50,-

000,000. I mean that the National Museum,

Smithsonian, Washington Monument, the Capi-

tol buildings, the Patent Office, and the various

Department buildings, with their relies, treas-

ernment, are all practically an exhibit and a

much more dignified to keep these valuable

relies and exhibits at the seat of Government

than to further engage in the traveling-show business by periodically depleting the National Museum and Departments in order to take Gov-

other cities, as has frequently been done. To state the case differently, the Government

must go to the Exposition or the Exposition must

go to the Government. We believe the Ameri-

existing nucleus just mentioned, it is safe to

Whatever money may be appropriated for

been done at expositions in other cities.

Washington is the capital of the oldest and

washington is the capital of the oldest and foremost of the nineteen-independent sister nations of the Western Hemisphere, and, for this reason, the appropriate place for an Exposition under their joint auspices. The idea was eloquently expressed by Hon. A. M. Soteldo, late Minister at Washington from Venezuela, who said: "The four hundredth anniversary of Columbus" discovery of the Venezuela.

can people prefer the latter. In view of the

constant source of attraction to visitors. It is

ures of art, and practical working of the Gov-

the Exposition is to be held.

owned by the people of the District.

senators and Representatives in Congress,

clustered together around the Washington

Monument." Washington is the diplomatic headquarters for all foreign nations. Their legations are daily capacity provided terminal facilities were here as a matter of course, and no one would supplied. They found that they could in twen-United States provided for the holding of two ited if terminal facilities are supplied. This great international congresses, the International Marine Congress, which have for several months | Capital, such as the Baltimore & Ohio R.R. a matter of course, selected as the place of and Danville system and Atlantic Coast line. meeting. As the exposition of 1892 is to be It is therefore safe to assert that the daily camainly an international affair the same pro- pacity of the roads is at least 300,000 passenprieties require that it be located at the Na- | gers. tional Capital.

American people.

all others for the military and civic parades. which are a prominent feature of national and international celebrations. South, and the natural meeting-place for an industrial exhibit of those two sections.

the educational advantages, and no other country. American city has so much to offer that is in-

In 1892 the eighteen American sister Republies, whose organic laws are to a greater or less extent copied from our Constitution, will desire to make a special study of the workings of the Government of the parent American Republic -the United States. world will desire to do likewise, and where can they learn so much on this important subject as at the seat of Government? scendent importance that we give them the opportunity desired and show them the practical workings of our political system in all its grandeur and perfection.

anniversary of the day that Columbus landed, when it is expected a statue in his honor will be unveiled by the President of the United States, assisted by the Presidents of the eighteen other American Republics, the King of Italy, the Queen of Spain, and the Presidents and Sovereigns of all other nations. I venture to say that nearly all of these Presidents and Sovereigns will be present, as was Dom Pedro, of Brazil, at the Philadelphia Exposition in 1876. I also venture to say that the people of Italy, who are enthusiastic about the coming event. him authority. Now where and by whom should tion, or at the Nation's home by the President It is a very significant fact that the repreare all here at the Nation's Capital this week a ceremony or convention lasting but a few asking your honorable committee that a days.

American family would be found, as it were, enlarged as soon as the Exposition is located here, just as it was in Philadelphia in 1876. Five years ago the officers of the Pennsy! vania railroad made a careful estimate of their

daily capacity provided terminal facilities were think for a moment that they could with pro- ty-four hours bring over that one road 100,000 priety be established in New York, Chicago, or people. Its capacity is larger now than then St. Louis. When the last Congress of the and will, as they assert, be practically unlimsame statement may be applied to the other American Conference and the International great trunk lines tributary to the National been in session in this city, Washington was, as | the Chesapeake & Ohiorailroad, the Richmond

As regards the terminal facilities which can It is surrounded by scenes of great historic easily be provided, immediately adjoining the interest, such as the birthplace and tomb of Exposition grounds, I assert without hesitation Washington, and other places dear to the that few cities in the world have better natural It has magnificent and broad avenues and be purchased in South Washington, or if necesstreets, paved with asphalt and lined with sary, be condemned without the legal diffi-beautiful shade trees, making it the city above cuities which exist in other cities. The cost will also be small compared with that in New York and other places. On this point I have the written statement of an officer of the Rich It is centrally located between the North and | mond and Danville system who says: "I see no reason why terminal railroad facilities cannot be conveniently established in this city equal, A prominent feature of great world's fairs is | if not superior, to such in any city in this

The facilities for river transportation are on structive in the line of American history as a level with those of the railroads, but equally Washington. reason that the Potomac has never been a great commercial highway like the Mississipp River. But its channel is deep and possibili ties unlimited. The present depth of the channel from Washington to the mouth of the The other nations of the river is nineteen feet, and by the removal of bars at the moderate expense of about \$200,000 it can be increased to twenty-four feet, which is ample for all freight purposes On this point I present a written statement by Lieut. Col. Peter C. Hains, of the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, which I will file as "Ap pendix B.

He also states in the letter that there "is The great event of the Exposition year will be on the twelfth of October, 1892, the 400th ample harbor capacity between Washington and Alexandria for an immense fleet." In addition to this attention is invited to the important fact that these vessels can land and unload their freights at wharves immediately adjoining the Exposition grounds.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR VISITORS. Few cities in the United States are so elastic in its facilities for the accommodation of visitors as Washington, yet its capacity is continually misunderstood for the reason that it has few showy hotels. The facts are that nearly will insist that their King be present even if it all of Washington is practically a boarding requires an act of the Italian Parliament to give house and is accustomed to being transformed into a boarding house on great occasions like these distinguished guests of the nation be re- the Inauguration Ceremonies. Triennial Conceived? Should it be in a commercial city by claves and great national and international the officers of a State, city, or private corpora- conventions. The supply is always equal to the demand, and will be more so in 1892, for and Cabinet representing the whole American | the reason that there will be a greater inducepeople? To ask the question is to answer it. ment to supply the demand for an exposition lasting six months, and permanent museums sentatives of New York, Chicago, and St. Louis, | and attractions for all time thereafter, than for

s respectfully invited to a few facts on this Governmental stamp be placed upon the pro- I have the written statement of Mr. Boyd, the oint.

Washington is the city of the Nation and of vice the fundamental feature of our claim and vinity upon such sub-International Exposition. We will welcome | modated, and yet there were left uncalled for them most heartily, but no formal invitation is from 800 to 1,000 rooms. In his recent canvass necessary, for Washington is their home as of the city he found 850 vacant houses.

in itself, an object lesson showing the progres of American skill in arts and industries.

In December, 1886, at a convention of our exposition National Board of Promotion, with delegates present from various parts of the country, Hon. M. V. Montgomery, then Commissioner of Patents, delivered an elaborate address upon this subject. I will file as "Appendix A" a copy of his remarks upon that oc-

A third permanent building greatly needed and which should be the outgrowth of the coming Exposition is one for the Department of Agriculture. It was recommended by the Commissioner of Agriculture in his annual report for the year 1880, as follows: "I here take occasion to renew the recom

mendation made relative to another depart ment building as being a necessity for the acommodation of its employes, the number of whom must necessarily be largely increased to of the Committee, I beg to say that the correbe at all commensurate with the work to be done. This builing should be erected upon the ground at present occupied by the gardens, in rear and at the sides of the existing department. it should form a hollow rectangular parallelogram, with a front of about 1.000 feet by a lepth of about 500 feet, and should include an terior covered court. The building itself should be 80 feet in width, with suitable halls, &c., and with a piazza of proper width around the four sides of the court. It should be fireproof and well-ventilated, and be arranged for offices, for the storage and handling of seeds and for the continuous exhibition of the agri-

cultutural products of this great nation. "There should be provided, also, ample space within for the display of all implements employed in agricultural pursuits (and I am informed that working models will be furnished by the manufacturers thereof, if the Governent will provide the building.) The interior of this hollow parallelogram should be covered | event,' with a glass roof supported on pillars of suffiient height to accommodate, as at the Kew jardens, those trees and plants that are valuable for economic or ornamental purposes. The early erection of such a building cannot be too strongly urged. Looking to its consummation upon the scale suggested I have had drawings prepared which are herewith sub-

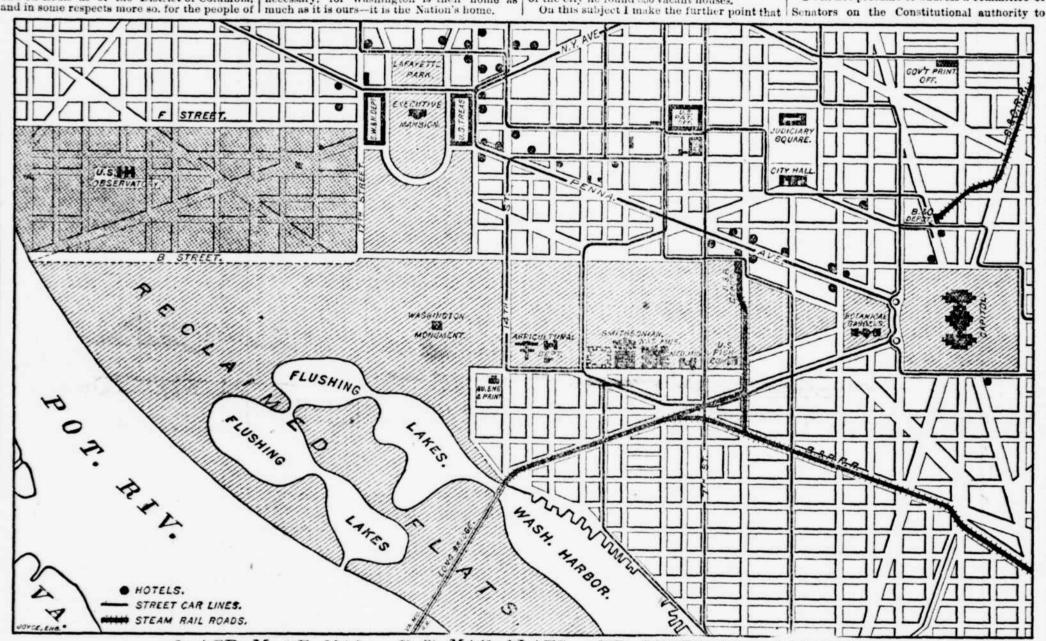
I will file as an appendix the plans of the proposed building, prepared by an able archiect of New York.

This building could, as recommended, and with propriety, be erected upon the ten acres of available ground south of the front line of motion, earnestly advocated the proposed three Americas Exposition of Washington. Still another building greatly needed is grand public hall for manguration balls, and

national and international conventions. Several other permanent structures are much needed and could be utilized to great advantage, but what I have mentioned are sufficient to illustrate the necessity. Viewed from the standpoint of economy as

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY.

I will not presume to address a committee of



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ACCESSIBLE PARK. regard to the location of the Exposition

coln Park, another on Columbia Height over- have the city of Baltimore with its hotels to looking the city, another in the Park extend-ing from the Capitol to the Washington Monument, together with the Potomac Flats, the Observatory grounds, and the property extending from the Observatory to the De-

partment of State. One of the most important features of World's Fair is an easily accessible site, and to illustrate the wonderful advantages Washington has in this respect over all other cities, I invite your attention to the accompanying diagram illustrating the last mentioned site.

The existing park extending from the Capitol to the Monument and Executive Mansion contains three hundred acres. Over seven hundred more acres will be added by the reclamation of the Potomac Flats, and two hundred and twenty more can be added by using the grounds of the observatory, which is soon to be removed, and by condemning the adjoinbetween F and B streets, and the State Department and Observatory. These two hundred and twenty acres are above the flood line, well adapted to drainage and most desirable for permanent buildings. The whole park thus lescribed contains one thousand two hundred and twenty acres and is without doubt the most accessible site in the world for visitors. All street car lines converge toward or run parallel with it. All steam lines from the North, South and West enter it, except the B. & O. R.R., and that adjoins it. The Potonac River faces it. All of the principal hotels (indicated upon the diagram by the round dots) are so near this park that not even a street car is needed to reach it. It is within ! five minutes' walk, not only of these hotels,

Nearly all of the Governmental Departments are in or facing it, and, as I previously remarked, constitute an exposition nucleus or plant to the value of \$50,000,000. One of the great financial difficulties of expositions in and the consequent loss of gate money. Now, I venture to say that if the Exposition is held in this park, and lighted with electricity at ernmental exhibits to temporary expositions in night, the attendance and receipts will be double what they would be if located in the suburbs.

but of the principal boarding-houses.

Another noticeable feature of this park is than a financial success. TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.

The capacity of the railways tributary to Washington from all sections of the country is practically unlimited, but owing to a confusion for the purpose, to bear such rate of interest and to mature at such time as to Congress shall and to mature at such time as to Congress shall niversary of Columbus' discovery of the New proceeds to be paid into the Treasury of the inauguration of this Exposition in this United States as a fund for the expenses of of terms the facts have been misunderstood by value.

POT MAC FLATS AND PROPOSED whatever city holds the exposition will require Our Board has taken no definite action in many more hotels and that one, five, or ten million dollars will build hotels as cheaply and quickly here as elsewhere, and that the money will, as a matter of business and profit, be grounds within the District, preferring that it be decided, as it must be, by a Governmental readily forthcoming for that purpose. That within 45 minutes' ride of the Exposition park, There are, however, at least three available which is no longer time than from the center sites, one on Capitol Hill in and around Lin- of most cities to their Exposition parks, we

> draw upon. And I repeat that as a matter of business the hotel and boarding house supply will be equal to the demand as it was in Philadelphia in 1876. and to a greater extent than there in view of the permanent features of our exposition plan.

> NECESSITY FOR GOVERNMENTAL BUILDINGS. We have prepared no plans for building, believing the details of the Exposition should be left to a Governmental Board. On this point we simply invite your attention to the importance and necessity of permanent buildings for

various uses of the Government. First in order of importance is the enlargement of the present National Museum into a Continental or Three Americas Museum. The present building, while comparatively newnot more than 7 years old, I think—is so en-tirely inadequate that there are enough aning and comparatively unimproved property | tiquities, relics, and exhibits stored away unpacked to fill another building the size of the present one. If this is the condition the first even years it will, in 1892, when exhibits of the antiquities, history, and civilization of the New World during the past 400 years come here as they will from Mexico, Central and South America, require a building or buildings at least ten times the size of the present one. On this point I will quote briefly from the official report upon the condition and progress of the National Museum for the year ending June 30, 1866, by Prof. G. Brown Goode. the Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, in charge of the Museum. He says:

"The exhibition of 1876 in Philadelphia was an event of great educational importance to the people of the United States; and not the least of its benefits were the lessons it taught as to the possibilities for good in public museums. The objects which were given to the United States for its National Museum, at the close of the Centennial, were of much intrinsic value, but were still more important, in other cities has been the inaccessibility at night | that they led to the erection of a large building

for the expansion of the museum itself."
"It is, I think, possible to show that Washington may readily be made the seat of one of the greatest museums in the world. It will perhaps be neither practicable nor desirable to gather together in Washington collections of that while it is near the hotels and business | ancient and mediaval art, such as those which centre it is entirely separate from the better residence portion of the city. An exposition thus located would not disturb the quietude of thus located would not disturb the quietude of existing nucleus just mentioned, it is said to assert that the appropriation of \$15,000,000, thus located would not disturb the quietude of asked for in the bill under consideration, is fully equivalent to \$30,000,000 spent in New lines to their residences as it would, for inlines to their residences as it would, for instudy of the elements of art and the history of civilization, as well as to forward the growth stance, if located in Central Park, New York.

Another striking feature of this site is that here the buildings will be of permanent value complished, the attention of the Museum to the Government, hence the enormous waste | should be directed mainly toward the exhibition which has most invariably attended the removal of buildings at other expositions will be avoided. In view of these facts, the Exposimemorials of its aboriginal inhabitants, and to tion, if located at Washington, cannot be other the exposition of the arts and industries of

The Exposition of 1892 can be made the stepping-stone to carrying out this grand and use-ful idea, and such buildings can with propriety be erected in the rear of the Smithsonian and on the north of it as will be of permanent

place the proposed Exposition under the exclusive control of the Federal Government. and to provide the necessary appropriation, for that is a matter with which you are per-fectly familiar, but I respectfully invite your such names as C. C. Glover, of Riggs & Co.; attention to a matter of fact in this connection. For twenty years or more it has been the well Bank; B. H. Warner, President Columbia Nasettled policy of Congress to appropriate lib-erally for expositions in the capitals of Europe. ran; C. C. Willard, Henry A. Willard, Matthew During the last Congress \$250,000 were appropriated for the Exposition at Paris, \$30,000 for Brussels, \$25,000 for Barcelona, and \$50,000 for Melbourne, Australia. While this action was in itself commendable and useful in stimulating the development of our foreign commerce, it is equally Constitutional to appropriate for an three dollars, showing conclusively that this Exposition at our own National Capital. Failure to do so is, in our opinion, a discrimination

IMPORTANCE OF THE EXPOSITION.

ance of the movement is equally great. For years and years Europe has monopolized the foreign commerce of the eighteen sister Republics south of us, which annual commerce amounts to upwards of \$1,000,000,000 in value. exports and imports combined. We supply less than one-sixth of the trade demand of those valuable markets, and Europe over five-sixths. The recent Paris Exposition, in which the Spanish-American Republics played a leading part, has had a tendency to stimulate the European monopoly. Sound public policy requires that the Exposition be counterbalanced by one at our own National Capital, and that the leading and conspicuous feature be the development of more intimate commercial and cial relations between the Three Americas. An Exposition based upon this idea will be the most profitable investment the United

States has ever made.

they pay abundantly the nations that hold them. Never has one been held that, in many respects, has not absolutely revolution-ized the industries of the country which held

DDITIONS.

against America.

On the subject of the importance and value of the proposed Exposition the American people have already, through their Boards of Trade, governors, mayors, State granges, national conventions, and public press, spoken in no uncertain terms. Never before was public sentiment so unanimous in support of an hissentiment support sentiment so unanimous in support of an historical and patriotic movement, and why? Primarily because the American people are justly proud of their 400 years of history and progress, and secondly because the outflow of American gold to Europe for various purposes is assuming too large proportions. Over ten years ago, according to an official estimate submitted to the Department of State by one of our consuls in Europe, the annual average spent by Americans in Europe for purposes of travel, pleasure, art, and education was about \$105,000,000 in gold. During the past year, owing to the unusual exodus of Americans to Europe, largely owing to the Paris Exposition it is safe to assert that \$200,000,000 were spen abroad for similar purposes. Now why not reverse this situation by making our own National Capital the Paris of America in beauty and at tractions, the Berlin of America in educational advantages, and the Rome of America in art. This, Mr. Chairman, is the spirit and tendency of the movement we advocate, and we know that it has the hearty approval and indorsement of the American people.

From the commercial standpoint the import-

On the 31st of July, 1886, a member of your Honorable Committee, the Senator from Con-necticut, said, upon the floor of the Senate: "As to the value of international expositions conducted with proper prudence and wisdom, I have not the slightest doubt in the world that

These remarks may be applied with double force to the movement we advocate, for it is an Exposition with an idea, and the idea is greater than the exposition, in that it aims at

ings, and therefore no loss in their removal, as in nearly all previous expositions.

Whatever profits there may be, whether direct or indirect, will, if located at the Na tional Capital, accrue to the whole 60,000,000 people, and for this reason our plan is the only fair one to be executed by Federal appropria-

supporting, the gate receipts equal to the ex-penditures, is, in view of the indirect benefits,

a matter of minor importance. We believe,

however, it will be the greatest financial suc-

that our plan contemplates permanent build-

cess of any exposition in history, for the reason

American sister nations.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen spondence of our board, extending over a period of nearly four years and supplemented by a unanimous and favorable report by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, shows that the 46 States and Territories of this country, the 18 sister Republics of the other Americas, and Spain and Italy in the Old World, expect and are anxious to be invited to the commemoration of the coming 400th anniversary of the discovery of America. More than two years ago the Government of Spain took official action upon the subject and, through its Minister of State, notified Hon, J. L. M. Curry, our minister at that time at the court of Madrid, that it had decided "to take the initiative in celebrating in the most solemn manner the centenary of the discovery of America in the year 1892. and also, "that Spain is ready at the same time to take part in any other celebration and solemnity which may be undertaken on the American continent to commemorate the great

This, gentlemen, is practically an official hint from the Government of Spain that they would like to be invited, and in our humble opinion a becoming national pride requires that the oldest and foremost American nation take the initiative in celebrating the event in a manner worthy of the greatness, grandeur, and glory of the New World which Columbus discovered. Remarks by Myron M. Parker, Presi-

dent of the Washington Board of Trade. Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:

For a period of four years the National Board of Promotion have prosecuted their work from Williams Beet, from and Wine stress the present Agricultural Department. It is a National and patriotic standpoint. It was the present Agricultural Department. It is a National and patriotic standpoint. It was and the Best and Land Control one of the most beautiful building gratifying to them to know that their efforts williams' Phosphatic English Washington, is worthy as is the subject, of a grand and permanent structure, and would be particularly gratifying to the agriculturists of the United States, who have during the past four years, by resolutions at annual conventions, by correspondence, and the formal acceptance of membership in our Board of Promotion, earnestly advocated the processed and the five millions of dollars as a guar-angular advocated the approval of the Governors of the Governors of most of the States. It was not until May of last year that this subject of a National and International Exposition to be held in 1892 assumed a financial aspect. We were then told that the city of New York had subscribed somethat the city of New York had you will not the city antee fund for this Exposition. This was very shortly followed by the city of Chicago, which represented they had a guarantee fund, or an alleged guarantee fund, of about six millions of lollars, thus going New York one better. St. Louis also gave their assurance of commercial strength. All of these cities, it will be seen. seem to have reduced this patriotic question to one of finance, and to have met it as one whose success would depend upon that city which well as necessity, the plan we advocate is, in could bid the most money for the privilege of locally entertaining the Nation's guests in celebrating a National event.

The National Board of Promotion felt that this position was unworthy of a great Government, but realized that it had assumed such proportions that it had to be met. The matter was therefore discussed as to what course should be pursued. It was first proposed that we undertake to raise money by subscription, as has been done in New York, Chicago, and St. Louis. But after reflection and consultation it was decided to pursue a more dignified course, and to memorialize Congress to permit the citizens of Washington to raise the necessary money by way of taxation It was said that it was easy in New York, or

say that they had on paper a guarantee fund of from five to fifteen millions. It will be recog- highest grade of maturity and ripeness and are, there nized by every member of this Committee that | fore, the best Wines in the market, it would not be difficult for a merchants' club to say, we will give five million dollars, or a manufacturers' club to say, we will give five million. But are these millions always paid when so subcribed? The people of Washington are prepared to submit to this Committee more reliable pledge of their financial responsibility.

They make this pledge in good faith and in such manner as to leave no question on the part of the city or the National Board of Promotion to faithfully perform all they promise. They therefore memorialize Congress to this

"The undersigned, resident tax-payers of the District of Columbia, respectfully petition your honorable body for legislation providing for the holding of a Three Americas Exposition at the National Capital in 1892, under the exclusive direction and control of the Federal Government; and if, in the selection of the locality for holding such an Exposition, it shall be the sense of Congress that the question should in any degree depend upon the offering of a guarantee fund by the advocates of the city to be chosen, then we pray your honorable body to authorize the issuance of \$15,000,000 of the onds of the District of Columbia, or so much thereof as may be found necessary for the purpose, to bear such rate of interest and to mature at such time as to Congress shall seem best, to be sold at not less than par, the proceeds to be paid into the Treasury of the United States as a fund for the expenses of polding such an Exposition at the city of Washington; any unexpended balance thereof, together with the receipts over and above the expenses of said Exposition, to be placed to the credit of the District of Columbia for the liquidation of any indebtedness of said District,

"This memorial is signed upon the express agreement that it is not to be presented to Congress until tax-payers of the District of Columbia representing a majority of the taxable prop-erty therein shall first attach their signatures." Now, as an endorsement to the proposition, I hold here in my hand memorials signed by the tax-payers of the city of Washington rep resenting over seventy-five million of dollars, over one-half of the taxable property of the Samuel Norment, President Central National G. Emery, President Second National Bank; Thomas E. Waggaman, E. Kurtz Johnson, President Citizens' National Bank; John R. Mc-Lean, Gardner G. Hubbard, and other similar men of wealth. In contrast to these large taxpayers you will also find taxable property of sentiment and method is not only popular with the rich but with the comparatively poor of our city.

Had the legislatures of the States of New York, Illinois, or Missouri, by legislative enactment, anthorized the cities of those world have heard so much of late.

We now say to this committee, to Congress, and to the people of this country that we in Washington ask permission, if the Government thinks it best, that the expense should be so borne to, by taxation, raise this guarantee fund of fifteen million dollars, and we further agree that all direction of this National and International Exposition shall be left entirely in the hands of the Government, and that it shall in no sense assume a local aspect.

Remarks of Major John W. Powell, Di-

rector of the U. S. Geological Survey. Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Committee: I appear before you in a somewhat different attitude from that which I have assumed at previous meetings of committees on this matter. The last three years I have appeared before the committees of the Senate and House of Representatives to advocate an Exposition having certain ends in view. It is not necessary for me today to take up the line of thought which I have hitherto followed to show the interest and importance of a National Exposition.
That seems practically to have been decided by
the voice of the people, and a determination
has been reached that such an Exposition would

be fitting and proper to commemorate the dis-covery of America. Now I wish to present another view of the matter. It is very easy to have an Exposition which will be of great interest for a few months, and really of great value to the people in the dis-semination of information, and perhaps in the acceleration of the trade and business country, yet at the same time, when the Exposition is over, to have the materials immediately disappear, while there may be no

ately disappear, while there may be no real permanent results coming therefrom. This would be unfortunate, almost a calanity.

In the expositions which have been held throughout the world usually some feature has been adopted by which some lasting good may result therefrom. In London there uitimately resulted a great collection of natural history and the fine arts. and the fine arts. At Paris they have from this last summer's exposition practically collected and established a great archeologic museum, so that there might be permanent and ineffac able results from that exposition. Other exposi-tions throughout the world have had enduring

results in the same way.

In regard to the one held in Philadelphia some years ago, these results were saved at an enormous cost, because of the peculiar circum-[Continued on Eighth Page.]

the establishment of an American hemispheri-BUY TO THE BEST ADVANTAGE cal policy based upon more intimate com-mercial and social relations between nineteen Whether the Exposition will be directly self-

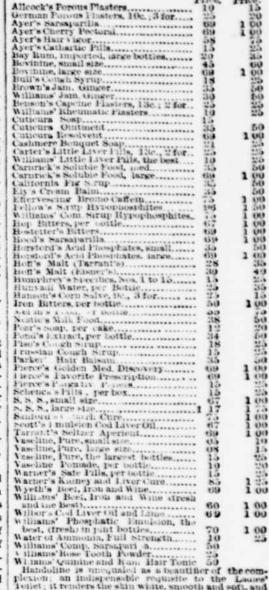
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